
EERE Project Management Center News
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This newsletter is intended to keep stakeholders of the U.S. Department of Energy's Project Management Center (PMC) informed of emerging topics of interest. John and I encourage states and other stakeholders to contact us at the above e-mail addresses with story ideas and/or articles you would like to see or discuss.

Featured articles:

- What's Next? Interview with PMC States Coordinators Julie Riel and James Ferguson
- Eastern States PMC Meeting Planned
- Energy Efficiency Best Practices Workbook for Local Governments now available
- New Look for Locating Partner Information on PMC Web Site
- Upcoming "Advancing Renewable Energy" Conference
- Energy Awareness Month to Emphasize Energy Independence
- "Change a Light" Public Service Announcements to be Available on Web

A PDF version of this newsletter is available at:
https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/PMC_Partners.aspx#newsletters

What's Next: interview with Julie Riel and James Ferguson

Q: OK, we've made the transition from the Regional Office structure into the Project Management Center; people are settling into their new positions and the new management structure has been put into place. What's next; how are things looking from your perspective as the primary contacts to the states?

Julie: "I think holding our initial meeting here in the west helped everybody relax a bit about the new EERE field structure. Staff is now in place at both GO and NETL, but we still need to further clarify and define the day-to-day working role of the PMC.

James: "EERE program managers in D.C. and our stakeholders in the states obviously live in two very different worlds; here at the PMC, we fall right in the middle and can help bridge that gap.

"It's essential to communicate across the board, at all levels. States have told us they want to know more about where EERE management in D.C. is headed. Management wants a better grip on knowing what the states are doing and where they wish to go with deployment of technologies and, of course, how to best measure performance. We're confident that one of the best ways we can sharpen an understanding of these issues is to work within the PMC structure to make it a valuable resource in helping connect everybody."

Julie: "James is right; what we need to do here at the PMC is see how we can best work to bring the national perspective and the state and local perspectives into harmony; to help all sides better understand how to work more effectively together."

James: "Energy efficiency and renewable energy programs are under a lot of scrutiny right now. The run-up in natural gas and petroleum prices has pushed these programs into the limelight. We're being more closely monitored as to how money is being spent to move EERE technologies into the marketplace. People at the program level in D.C. want documented successes; this means more metrics and more communication of what we accomplish out here in the field."

Julie: "At the PMC-level, we have to do a better job of letting EERE program managers know why states make valuable partners in reaching program goals. We also have to do a better job of letting the states know what our EERE program managers really need and expect.

"Return on investment, demonstrable results for every dollar spent, performance metrics that make sense to Capitol Hill; these are the things that will have to be better addressed by all of us, regardless of where we are located."

James: "We need to develop better partnerships with the states. We need to communicate back to headquarters that the states can work efficiently to push energy efficiency and renewable energy hardware into the marketplace. This means continuing an honest dialogue with all sides; no dodging the hard questions, or just working to get the money out the door.

Julie: "We have good people and projects in the states; we have good people and programs at the PMC and national levels. It's our job to help glue them together, to get everybody working on the same page."

Eastern States PMC Meeting Planned

The Project Management Center (PMC) meeting for the 25 states and territories of the former Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and Southeast regions will take place at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel, November 15-16 in Pittsburgh, Penn.

Managers and staff from the National Energy Technology Laboratory and the Golden Field Office will meet with state representatives including directors and staff from the State Energy Offices and the State Weatherization Program offices.

In August, about 100 state representatives attended the Western States meeting in Golden, Colo. to discuss the expanded PMC and EERE's organizational structure. Many state leaders came away optimistic about this new approach, as states and PMC staff at Golden worked to identify common program goals. EERE is hopeful this will continue with counterparts on the East Coast.

Energy Efficiency Best Practices Workbook Now Available

A new "Energy Efficiency Best Practices Workbook for Local Governments" is now available for any community wanting to reduce its energy use, costs, and greenhouse gas emissions. Published by the California Local Energy Efficiency Program (CALeep) and funded by the California Public Utility Commission, the workbook takes a look at opportunities and potential barriers to community-level energy efficiency initiatives. It focuses on a basic five-step process that communities can follow, whether starting from scratch or building upon existing energy efficiency activities.

The workbook can be downloaded as a series of PDF files at:
<http://www.caleep.com/workbook/workbook.htm>.

New Look for Locating PMC Partner Information, Contacts

Want to know who to contact for a particular weatherization project? Looking for the latest information on a solicitation? For your convenience, all PMC staffing assignments at GO and NETL are now posted online under the PMC Website at <<https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/>>.

To view this information, simply click the **Recipient and PMC Partner Information** link on the left navigation bar. Then scroll down and click **PMC Partner News** to view updated State Contacts, including a new list for NETL, or to learn about upcoming meetings and events. To contact employees at GO, e-mail addresses are in the format:
firstname.lastname@go.doe.gov; to contact employees at NETL e-mail addresses are in the format:
firstname.lastname@netl.doe.gov.

Upcoming Advancing Renewable Energy Conference

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and DOE are sponsoring the first-ever Advancing Renewable Energy Conference Oct. 10-12 in St. Louis, Mo. The conference will bring together corporate and government decision-makers to create a strategy for achieving the goals of the President's aggressive Advanced Energy Initiative. Areas of focus include biomass, wind and solar research and commercialization. For more information, visit www.advancingrenewableenergy.com.

Energy Awareness Month Will Emphasize Energy Independence

Don't forget, October is Energy Awareness Month. This year's theme will be reaching Energy Independence.

SEP Developing Public Service Announcements (PSA) for Change of Light Campaign

DOE's State Energy Program announced at the National Association of State Energy Officials it is developing 51

PSAs - one for each state and the District of Columbia - to publicize the 2006 Change a Light Campaign. SEP will post the PSA's on the SEP Web site, http://www.eere.energy.gov/state_energy_program, where state energy offices and participating radio stations can pick them up or link to them. The PSAs will refer people to the appropriate state energy office and the Energy Star Web site.

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